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his own day would not claim for him. The author says that his purpose is not to foster ill will between the North and the South but that he considers it his duty to correct the present day misrepresentations as to the real qualities of Mr. Lincoln. To prove his points he quotes the writings of the closest associates of Mr. Lincoln's public life, of the contemporaneous newspapers friendly to his administration, and from government documents and publications. Mr. Minor expresses no opinion of his own, but the whole book is little more nor less than quotations from others. It is a most interesting compilation and possesses undoubted historical value, but the reader lays down the book with a tired feeling, because it is never pleasant, even to an ill-tempered man, to hear abuse and nothing but abuse, concerning one whom all must admit had many good qualities.

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**The Federal Statutes Annotated.** Notes on the Constitution of the United States. By Thomas H. Calvert. Compiled under the editorial supervision of William M. McKinney. Vol. IX. Edward Thompson Company, Northport, Long Island, New York. 1906.

This volume continues and completes the notes of the Federal Constitution begun in Volume 8. In reviewing that volume we took occasion to say that it was the most interesting and valuable of the entire series. The "palm" must now pass to Volume 9, especially since it devotes nearly three hundred pages to the discussion of the Fourteenth Amendment, which has now become an important factor in the every day practice of law. The method of treating this most important amendment renders all the decisions pertaining to it readily and quickly accessible. The volume ends with a very voluminous index to the notes on the Constitution covering nearly three hundred pages.

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**A Treatise on the Law of Municipal Corporations.** By Howard S. Abbott, of the Minneapolis Bar, late Special Master in Chancery Union Pacific Railroad Receivership; Master in Chancery U. S. Circuit Court; Lecturer on Public and Private Corporations and Civil Law, University of Minnesota. In three volumes. Keefe-Davidson Company, St. Paul. 1905.

The subject of these volumes is one of great and growing importance. The marvelous growth of the city population and the great enterprises now being undertaken by municipalities, far in excess of what was dreamt of a decade ago, renders especially timely the appearance of this work. The author discusses the subject under eleven general heads. His first chapter is devoted to Definitions and then follow chapters on Corporate Life and Existence; Legislative Power Over Public Corporations and Its Limitations; Corporate Elections; The Powers of Public Corporations; Public Revenues; Their Collection and Disbursement; Governing Bodies; Public Office and Officers; Public Property; Liability for Negligence, Public Duties; and Ac-

tions by and against Public Corporations. Only two volumes have yet appeared and the last three subjects referred to will be discussed in the third volume. The author has successfully attempted to state concisely and accurately the general principles applicable to the subject and has spared no pains in collecting and presenting in accessible form the numerous decisions bearing upon the subject.

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**A Manual of Statutory Corporation Law.** Classified Corporation Laws of All the States, containing A Digest of the Business Corporation Laws of Every State and Territory of the United States Arranged Uniformly. By M. U. Overland, of the New York Bar. The Ronald Press, New York. 1906.

This is a valuable compilation both for the legislator and the practitioner. From it the former may, in the light of the statutes of other States, seek to improve those of his own, while to the practitioner the book's special value grows out of the fact that he may quickly compare the advantages which the various States may offer for the incorporation of enterprises for which he may be employed to obtain a charter. There have been other compilations of the corporation laws of the states, but heretofore they have not been classified so as to afford facility for comparison on particular points, and it is on this account that the book is one of special utility.

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**The American State Reports,** containing the Cases of General Value and authority subsequent to those contained in the "American Decisions" and the "American Reports," decided in the Courts of Last Resort of the Several States. Selected, reported, and annotated by A. C. Freeman. Vol. 106. Bancroft-Whitney Company, Law Publishers and Law Booksellers, San Francisco. 1906.

In this volume will be found recent Virginia cases which were considered of special general interest. These cases, all of which are found in 103 Va., are as follows: Lane Bros. & Co. *v.* Bauserman, discussing the Vice-Principal Doctrine; Cummins *v.* Beavers, discussing Options; Johnson *v.* Black; Lewis *v.* Apperson; Norfolk & Western *v.* Fritts and Brudett *v.* Commonwealth. Among the important monographic notes are those on Heir, Devisee, or Legatee as Trustee *Ex Maleficio*; What Are Additional Servitudes in Streets and Highways; The Law of Estovers in the United States; Precatory Trusts; Relief in Equity from Orders and Decrees of Probate and Other Courts Having Exclusive Jurisdiction Over the Estates of Decedents and of Minors and Other Incompetent Persons; Husband and Wife as Witnesses for and against Each Other in Criminal Prosecutions; Coercion as a Defense to Crime; In Whose Name Deputy Should Act; Measure of Vendee's Damages for Breach of Contract to Convey Realty.